

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A diagnostic cap comprising a substantially cup-shaped body, an absorbent plug located within the body, and at least one diagnostic test reagent located in or around the absorbent plug, wherein the at least one diagnostic test reagent is provided in or on an annular diagnostic strip extending radially around the inside of the cap.
2. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 1, wherein the cap has a length of from about 1cm to about 4cm.
3. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 1, wherein the cap has one or more engagement elements on an inside surface of a side wall of the cap for securing the cap onto a shaft.
4. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 3, wherein said engagement elements are selected from the group consisting of: a tapered region for forming an interference fit with a complementary tapered region on the shaft, a snap-fitting projection for forming a snap-fit with one or more complementary projections on the shaft, and a threaded projection for forming a screw fit with one or more complementary threads on the shaft.
5. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 3, wherein a venting aperture is provided in a lower region of the cap.
6. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 5, wherein the cap is at least partially transparent.
7. (cancelled) The diagnostic cap according to claim 3, wherein the at least one diagnostic test reagent is provided in or on an annular diagnostic strip extending radially around the inside of the cap.
8. (cancelled) The diagnostic cap according to claim 3, wherein at least one diagnostic test reagent is provided in or on a diagnostic sheet extending transversely across the inside of the cap.
9. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 8, wherein the absorbent plug has an uncompressed volume of from about 10 to about 1000mm³, preferably from about 50 to about 300 mm³.

10. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 8, wherein the cap bears radially and/or axially spaced indicia corresponding to different regions or layers of diagnostic material inside the cap.
11. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 8, wherein the cap is provided with a filter for separating solid debris from an analyte solution to be passed to the diagnostic test reagent.
12. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 11, wherein the cap is provided with a fill indicator to indicate when the diagnostic test reagent has been wetted by an analyte solution.
13. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 12, wherein the diagnostic test reagent comprises a solid support material having a substrate moiety covalently linked thereto that is cleavable by an analyte enzyme.
14. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 12, wherein the diagnostic test reagent comprises a solid support material having an immunological binding partner for an analyte moiety covalently linked thereto.
15. (Previously Presented) The diagnostic cap according to claim 12, wherein the cap contains a plurality of diagnostic test reagents for detecting a plurality of different analytes.
16. (New) A diagnostic cap comprising a substantially cup-shaped body, an absorbent plug located within the body, and at least one diagnostic test reagent located in or around the absorbent plug, wherein at least one diagnostic test reagent is provided in or on a diagnostic sheet extending transversely across the inside of the cap.